

HaysMedicalCenter

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December 16, 1996

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission/ Room 222  
1919 M Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir,



We have enclosed comments Ref: **CC Docket No 96-45** on Telemedicine.

If you have further comments, please contact me at (913) 623-5119.

Sincerely,

Stan Unruh  
Administrative Director  
of Communications

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**Questions to Address:**

1. Name of project:

Plains Health Telemedicine Network

2. Please list each of the project's sites:

Name of site:

State in which it is located:

<u>Rawlins County Hosp</u>	<u>KS</u>
<u>Cheyenne County Hosp</u>	<u>KS</u>
<u>Crisell Mem. Hosp</u>	<u>KS</u>
<u>Plainville Rural Hosp</u>	<u>KS</u>
<u>Hays Med Ctr</u>	<u>KS</u>
<u>Norton City Hosp</u>	<u>KS</u>
<u>Edwards City Hosp</u>	<u>KS</u>
<u>Logan City Hosp</u>	<u>KS</u>

Please answer the following questions for each of your sites.  
Use additional sheets if necessary.

3. What is the nearest city of population equal to or greater than 50,00 in your state, and approximately how far are you from its boundary?

City: Salina KS Distance from city boundary: 100 mi

4. Name of the project's telecommunications service provider:

SW Bell, KENNET, Golden Belt.

5. Level of telecommunications service the project is currently using: (For example, voice grade, 144 Kbps (ISDN), 384 Kbps, T-1 or equivalent)

ISDN 384 Kbps and 1/4 T1

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## 6. Charges for telecommunications service:

Is there a monthly charge? No ☐ Yes ☒If yes, how much is the charge? ISDN: \$510/mo (BRI), ISDN: \$545/mo (PRI)  
TI: \$240/moIs there a usage-based charge? No ☐ Yes ☒If yes, how much is the charge? ISDN (PRI): .045/min/chnl  
TI: 36.50/hrIs there a distance component (such as a per-mile fee) of the charge? No ☐ Yes ☒If yes, how much is the charge? \$180/mo/3 BRI, \$255/mo (PRI)Was there an installation fee? No ☐ Yes ☒If yes, how much was the charge? BRI: \$230 PRI: \$1500Is the charge the regular tariffed rate, or is there a discount from the telecommunications provider? Tariffed ☒ Discount ☐

If there is a discount, how much is it? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How does the project use telecommunications in the delivery of health care? (For example -- to send x-rays, distribute public health information, or perform video consultations. Please identify any occasional or episodic uses, such as might result from an outbreak of disease.)

X-Rays,  
Education  
Telehealth consultations  
Administrative Meetings  
Patient Data Information  
Internet Access

DEC-13-96 FRI 18:48

HAYS MEDICAL ADMIN SAC

FAX NO. 9136235514

P.07

FROM M, W & E 1200 18TH ST WASH. D. C

(FRI) 12.13'96 19:37/ST. 19:02/NO. 3560704504 P 7/8

8. Could the project provide the services it is currently providing with less bandwidth? What effect would a lesser level of bandwidth have? (The implications of using greater or lesser levels of telecommunications services are related to image transmission time. What would the be the impact if the health care activities for which you now use telecommunications took twice as long, or if they could be completed in half the time?)

Consultations, Meetings, Primary Emergency Coverage, Education  
could not be provided over a lower bandwidth.  
A lower bandwidth would cause the video to be  
less than diagnostic quality.

9. What would the implications of having a greater level of bandwidth be?

Better image quality.

DEC-13-96 FRI 18:48

HAYS MEDICAL ADMIN SAC

FAX NO. 9136235514

P.08

FROM M, W & E 1200 18TH ST WASH. D. C

(FRI) 12.13.96 19:37/ST. 19:02/NO. 3560704504 P 8/8

10. Do you have e-mail? No ☐ Yes ☒

11. Do you have Internet access? No ☐ Yes ☒

If yes, do you incur long-distance charges by using it?

No ☒ Yes ☐

Please estimate your number of hours of Internet use per month:

16 hours

12. If you have access to the Internet, please list any purposes other than e-mail (such as accessing databases such as Lexis/Nexis) for which you use it:

Telephony, Image transfer, Patient information  
feedback